Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PRS-01 SS-15 INR-07 /036 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/P:MJERABEK:ST APPROVED BY EUR/P:FJSEIDNER EUR/SOV - MR. BARRY (INFO)

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R 310308Z AUG 76 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS STATE 215489

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, UR

SUBJECT: PRESS SUMMARY - AUGUST 30

- 1. NYT (3) WREN REPORTS SOVIET UNION HAS BEGUN PUBLICLY PRESSING SYRIA TO WITHDRAW ITS TROOPS FROM LEBANON AND COOPERATE WITH ITS "NATURAL ALLIES" THE PALESTINIANS AND LEBANESE LEFTISTS, AS INDICATED IN PRAVDA COMMENTARY ECHOING EARLIER STATEMENT ISSUED BY SOVIET AFRO-ASIAN SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE. THE NEW LINE EMERGING APPEARS TO REFLECT PUBLICLY WHAT MOSCOW HAS URGED PRIVATELY ON DAMASCUS. LATEST TURN IN LEBANESE CIVIL WAR HAS UNDERSCORED SOVIET POWERLESSNESS TO BRING ITS ERSTWHILE ARAB ALLY TO HEEL.
- 2. SUN) HAL PIPER REPORTS IN SOME DETAIL ON NEW
 ART EXHIBITION, ENTITLED "ALEXANDER PODKOLZIN AND 12
 YOUNG ARTISTS "WHICH OPENED LAST WEEK IN AN OFFICIAL
 ARTIST UNION'S HALL. IN THE OPINION OF SOME MOSCOW
 ARTISTS, PAINTINGS ARE DARING STYLISTICALLY AS THOSE
 AT SHOWING WHICH WAS DESTROYED BY BULLDOZERS TWO YEARS
 AGO. THE ART IS NOT SOCIAL, POLITICAL OR RELIGIOUS,
 AND ITS EXPERIMENTS IN FORM AND COLOR ARE TAME BY
 AMERICAN STANDARDS. BUT IN THE SOVIET UNION IT IS
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"PRETTY EXCITING", AS ONE KNOWLEDGABLE AMERICAN SAID.

- 3. WP (3) AFP ITEM REPORTS MOTHER OF JAILED SOVIET WRITER VLADIMIR BUKOVSKY HAS DESCRIBED HER SON AS BEING AS "INHUMANLY THIN" AS AN AUSCHWITZ PRISONER.
- 4. WP (8) MOSCOW ITEM IN NEWS ROUND-UP "AROUND THE WORLD" CITES TASS ANNOUNCEMENT THAT TWO WEEKS OF TALKS WITH U.S. DELEGATION ON A POSSIBLE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION TO BAN CHEMICAL WEAPONS HAD BEEN USEFUL.
- 5. STAR (4) UPI ITEM FROM MOSCOW REPORTS SOVIET UNION WARNED OF THE GROWING MILITARY CONFLICT BETWEEN EGYPT AND LIBYA "FRAUGHT WITH A SERIOUS DANGER TO WORLD PEACE". PRAVDA UNDERLINED SOVIET SUPPORT FOR LIBYA WHILE RE?RAINING FROM A DIRECT ATTACK ON EGYPT.
- 6. STAR (OP-ED) EDITORIAL POINTS OUT THAT DESPITE REPUBLICAN AND DEMOCRATIC PROMISES TO FARMERS, GRAIN EXPORTS MIGHT WELL BE LIMITED FROM TIME TO TIME IN SOME DEGREE, DEPENDING ON YEARLY HARVEST YIELDS HERE AND ELSEWHERE. (SUN HAS SIMILAR EDITORIAL). KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: PRESS SUMMARIES

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 31 AUG 1976 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a

Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE

Document Number: 1976STATE215489 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: MJERABEK:ST Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D760329-1225

From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976082/aaaaabgd.tel

Line Count: 82

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ORIGIN EUR Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: harterdg

Review Content Flags: Review Date: 11 JAN 2005

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 MAY 2004 by ReddocGW>; RELEASED <11 JAN 2005 by harterdg>; APPROVED <14 JAN 2005 by harterdg>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: PRESS SUMMARY - AUGUST 30

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To: MOSCOW

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006